

COUNTRY DATA: AZERBAIJAN : Information from the CIA World Factbook

INTRODUCTION

Azerbaijan- a nation with a majority-Turkic and majority-Muslim population- was briefly independent from 1918 to 1920; it regained its independence after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Despite a 1994 cease-fire, Azerbaijan has yet to resolve conflict with Armenia over Nagorno-Karabakh, a primarily Armenian populated region that Moscow recognized as part of Soviet Azerbaijan in the 1920s after Armenia and Azerbaijan disputed the status of the territory. Armenia and Azerbaijan began fighting over the area in 1988; the struggle escalated after both countries attained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. By May 1994, when a cease-fire took hold, ethnic Armenian forces held not only Nagorno-Karabakh but also seven surrounding provinces in the territory of Azerbaijan. Corruption on the country is ubiquitous, and the government, which eliminated presidential term limits in a 2009 referendum, has been accused of authoritarianism. Although the poverty rate has been reduced in recent years due to revenue from oil production, the promise of widespread wealth resulting from the continued development of Azerbaijan's energy sector remains largely unfulfilled,

GEOGRAPHY

Location	Southwestern Asia, bordering the Caspian Sea, between Iran and Russia, with a small European portion north of the Caucasus range
Area	Total: 86,600 sq km Land: 82,629 sq km Water: 3,971 sq km Country comparison to the world: 112
Climate	dry, semiarid steppe
Natural Resources	petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, nonferrous metals, bauxite
Total Renewable Water Resources	30.3 cu km (1997)
Freshwater Withdrawal	total: 17.25 cu km/yr Per capita: 2,051 cu m/yr (2000)
Natural Hazards	Droughts
Environmental Issues	local scientists consider the Abseron Yasaqligi (Apsheron Peninsula) (including Baku and Sumqayit) and the Caspian Sea to be the ecologically most devastated area in the world because of severe air, soil, and water pollution; soil pollution results from oil spills, from the use of DDT pesticide, and from toxic defoliants used in the production of cotton

PEOPLE	
Population	8,303,512 (July 2010 est.)
Ethnic Groups	Azeri 90.6%, Dagestani 2.2%, Russian 1.8%, Armenian 1.5%, other 3.9% (1999 census)
Religions	Muslim 93.4%, Russian Orthodox 2.5%, Armenian Orthodox 2.3%, other 1.8% (1995 est.)
Languages	Azerbaijani (Azeri) (official) 90.3%, Lezgi 2.2%, Russian 1.8%, Armenian 1.5%, other 3.3%, unspecified 1% (1999 census)
Literacy Rate	total population: 98.8% Male: 99.5% Female: 98.2% (1999 census)
Major Infectious Diseases	
GOVERNMENT	
Type	republic
Independence	30 August 1991 (declared from the Soviet Union); 18 October 1991 (adopted by the Supreme Council of Azerbaijan)
Constitution	Adopted 12 November 1995; modified by referendum 24 August 2002
Legal System	Based on civil law system; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction
ECONOMY	
Agricultural Products	cotton, grain, rice, grapes, fruit, vegetables, tea, tobacco; cattle, pigs, sheep, goats
Industries	petroleum and natural gas, petroleum products, oilfield equipment; steel, iron ore; cement; chemicals and petrochemicals; textiles
Import commodities	Machinery and equipment, oil products, foodstuffs, metals, chemicals
Import Partners	Turkey 18.69%, Russia 16.98%, Germany 7.87%, Ukraine 7.3%, China 6.18%, UK 5.73% (2009)
Export Commodities	oil and gas 90%, machinery, cotton, foodstuffs
Export Partners	Italy 20.69%, India 10.67%, US 9.24%, France 8.15%, Germany 7.62%, Indonesia 6.63%, Canada 5.13% (2009)
Per Capita GDP	\$11,000 (2010 est.) \$10,600 (2009 est.) \$9,700 (2008 est.)

Population below poverty line	11% (2009 est.)
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*CITATIONS: All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.

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General	
Life Expectancy at Birth (in years)	70.8 years
Average number of years in School (in years)	10.2 years
Gross National Income Per Capita (In US Dollars)	\$8,747
Gender Inequality	
Female Seats in Parliament (%)	11.4%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Female (% Of 25 and older)	90.0%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Male (% Of 25 and older)	96.0%
Labor Force Participation Female (%)	66.3%
Labor Force Participation Male (%)	71.1%
Births Attended by Skilled Health Professionals (%)	89%
Poverty	
Population surviving on \$1.25 per day (%)	<2%
Empowerment	
Number of Journalists Imprisoned	6
Corruption Victims (% of people who face a bribe situation in the last year)	36%
Political Engagement (% percent of people who voiced opinion to public officials)	25%

Sustainability	
Fossil Fuels as Primary Energy Source (%)	98%
Renewable Resources as Primary Energy Source (%)	2%
Population without Access to Water (%)	20%
Population Without Access to Sanitation Services (%)	55%
Population affected by natural disasters (% between 2000-2009)	<.01%
Human Security	
Number of Refugees leaving this country	16,300
Number of Internally Displaced People in This Country	573-603
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)	11%
Demographics	
Urban Residents (% of total Population)	51.9%
Health	
HIV Prevalence in Female Youth (% ages 15-24)	0.1%
HIV Prevalence in Male Youth (% ages 15-24)	0.3%
HIV Prevalence in Adults (% ages 15-49)	0.2%
Other	
Official Development Assistance Per Capita (in US dollars)	\$27.10
Population without Electricity (%)	--

